



## THE FARMER'S TALK TO FARMERS

### A DAIRY FARM AS A PARK FEATURE

(Written Specially for The Bulletin.)  
I don't suppose the ordinary farmer has a very deep or consuming interest in city parks.

Not many of us, when we go to New York city, make our first break for Central Park. We can see plenty of trees and bushes, and grass and weeds at home, thank you. Also crooked roads and chipmunks.

Whatever parks may mean to city people, to us country folk they have a slight interest and little appeal. They are out of our line—foreign to our interests—quite removed from our own private bug-presses.

Just why a crowd of goggle-eyed gazers should gather at an instant's notice by some park tree to see a red squirrel stealing nuts is not quite clear to a farmer. He has seen Mr. Squirrel many times—too many: has seen him not only stealing nuts but also tearing birds' nests to pieces, eating the eggs or wolfing down the just-hatched birdlings, to which he was perfectly phatically not welcome. He can't help thinking that the crowd's admiration of the furry bird-butcher's movements is due to their sorry ignorance of the little pirate's real character.

Same with the lawns. The farmer admits that the smooth-shaven sward, kept velvet and green by its weekly trimmings, is rather pretty. But he can't help thinking all the while how that acre, if the grass were allowed to grow and make hay, would feed a couple of hungry horses for a year and—to his rural eye—look just as handsome as the close cropped sward.

As a rule, therefore, the farmer's attitude towards city parks is one of rather complete detachment. If the city folk want 'em, why, all right: it's their affair, not his. Let them play their own game their own way.

But I, for one farmer, confess to a certain mild degree of interest in the proposal which is agitating the park board of Kansas City, just now.

The Kansas City school board have an agricultural commissioner named DeVingne. In a state like Kansas where agriculture is held in high honor and where the big farmers are looked upon as a sort of landed aristocracy, it is natural that even the cities should treat their calling with respect. This Mr. DeVingne has recently been looking over the farms and dairies and gardens from which Kansas City draws its supplies, and he has found a good deal of bad work being done. Much of it is due simply to thoughtlessness or ignorance.

He has therefore asked the park commissioners for permission to establish and maintain as a part of the city's educational programme, a demonstration dairy-farm in the city's biggest park. He wants them to give him the use of enough land so he can have a vegetable garden, a small orchard, a grain and grass acre, and a barn for about eight cows.

While he proposes this as a part of the school work for students who are looking forward to farming as a vocation, he also intimates that it might serve as sort of "model" farm from

which older farmers, visiting the city, might derive profit.

For instance, he has found that many small farmers do not consider it feasible to adopt certain dairy regulations held requisite for the production of "certified" milk. They assert that the things are impracticable except in large dairies. He wants to show by actual results that a farmer with so few as eight milch kine can turn out "certified" milk at a relative cost no greater than common milk.

Same with vegetables, fruits, grains, etc. The idea is not only to give the school-boy who is looking forward to a course in an agricultural college a primary training along the lines of his chosen career, but also to afford a set of examples for the eyes of grown-up farmers.

Now, I have my opinion of the so-called "model farm" owned and run as a costly plaything by some rich man who has made his money at something else, and enjoys spending it on agricultural frills. Of course, he has a perfect right to spend it that way, if he chooses. Indeed, it may be admitted to be a more commendable way of spending it than some others.

But such an estate, fitted up at an initial expense and maintained at an annual cost far beyond the reach of any common farmer, is no more a "model farm" than the Koh-i-noor is a model building stone.

For the very direct demand of the really model farm is that it shall be a profitable business, not only paying its way but also paying interest on the investment and paying profit to the owner. This is fundamental.

But, there's a vast difference between the country store of some rich amateur at agriculture, and the small demonstration farm managed by a real farmer expert, and proving by its actual work the feasibility and the profitability of improved farming methods.

I don't think any farmer ever got much help from the fancy farms of his neighbor, Major Fanning, who produces the fanciest of fancy milk from the fanciest of fancy cows at a cost of sixteen cents a quart, and sells it for twelve cents.

On the other hand hundreds and thousands of farmers have profited to the extent of millions of dollars by the demonstration work of Campbell, dry-farmer, in the semi-arid regions of the west. When such a man takes a few acres from some common farm and by the use of special devices, makes them produce sixty bushels of good wheat to the acre, year after year, when the average of all other farms in the vicinity keeps persistently below twenty bushels, it seems something: something interesting and something important. When he further demonstrates that the value of the additional product not only pays for all costs, but also increases the agricultural value of the soil at the same time, then the farmer who doesn't wake up and take an interest must be a sleepy-head.

Of course I don't know how practical a farmer this Kansas City DeVingne may be. But, assuming that he is one, and that he will make of his proposed park-farm a real demonstration plot rather than a sort of sanitarium for bug-house faddists, I confess that the idea seems good.

Furthermore, it is quite in keeping with what I understand to be the park idea. City people tell me that they get a certain sense of "country" from their parks: that it is a change and a rest from city conditions.

Well, if a bit of real country in a city is the thing desired, what could

be more altogether appropriate, as a part of the park itself, than that most characteristic of all country institutions, the farm?

I seem to remember how a certain queen of France, who had a palace of her own in a park of its own, established therein a small dairy, with real milk-pails and real milking-stools, as a part of the park, the one thing necessary to its complete fulfillment of the park idea.

Certainly there is much to recommend the plan, in point of fitness. I don't doubt that there are many city people who would be as much interested in a herd of big-bagged cows peacefully pasturing or a flock of lambs riotously gamboling about a park inclosure as they would be in a group of deer or a bevy of squirrels.

Add to this various practical considerations. Such a little farm in a public park would be a real help to those numerous city chaps who are seriously planning to get out into the open, their first good chance. They might at least learn the difference between a spading-fork and garden crow, between a Jersey milkster and a Shorthorn beefsteak. When their release came and fortune permitted them to venture into the country, they would have picked up some smattering of the fundamentals of country life.

It would serve as a valuable adjunct to school work. The average farmer's boy may not see much fun in caring for a vegetable garden. But experience has shown that there are innumerable city boys to whom that very

thing is a real sport, who would go to it as to a game. Why shouldn't the city which provides a park for the delectation of one sort and a ball-ground for the excitement of another sort also provide a garden for those who might prefer it?

Moreover, in such a demonstration farm in a park, there would be produced some mighty good vegetables and fruit and some unexceptionable milk. Don't you suppose that the managers of a tuberculosis hospital, for instance, would be rather glad to get supplies of that grade?

Besides all which there remains its value as a source of suggestion to real farmers.

Some one of that sort, not wholly satisfied with his cow-barn, but not knowing exactly how to make it what he wanted at a reasonable cost, might very well get one or two helpful ideas from seeing how the demonstration barn was built and managed. Or some hint as to a ration that would increase milk production without increased cost. Or some information as to some new crop which has been recommended to him; but which he wants to see with his own eyes before he takes it up.

Oh, there are lots of things which could be said in favor of the suggestion. For of I hope that Kansas City will try it. There are other cities, nearer home, where the idea might be worth a try.

The fact that it's a new thing is no proof that it may not be a mighty good thing, all round.

THE FARMER.

## LETTERS FROM TWO STATES

### Tolland County SPRING HILL

Mrs. Jared G. Freeman's Death at 89—Surprise Party.

Eunice Wood, 89, widow of Jared G. Freeman, died at her old home last Saturday morning after an illness of several weeks. She was born in Ashford, Sept. 16, 1825, daughter of Samuel W. and Mary (Fuller) Seagrave. Her father moved to Mansfield when she was a child, and she bought the farm (which is now two farms and owned by Morris Gitten and the heirs of James O'Sullivan) when she was a young woman. She was married to Mr. Freeman in 1848, and since then has lived on Spring Hill. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Erastus Rogers of Noank and Spring Hill, and Mary, of Noank. She has three granddaughters, Freeman Rogers and Mrs. Cora F. Lamb of Noank, and a great-granddaughter, Miss Dorothy Lamb of Springfield. The funeral service was held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at her old home, now the summer home of her daughter, Mrs. Rogers. Burial was in the Spring Hill cemetery.

Surprise Visit and Gift. Last week Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. J. Alfred Warren were surprised when about 25 friends, including the evening and left with kind regards and as a reminder, some knives and forks and spoons.

The tax collector has posted his notices stating at what time taxes are due in Mansfield and where and when he will receive them in the different parts of the town. They will be due at the usual time, the 25th of March.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron S. Hawkins of Mansfield, who have been ill, were visited by Mrs. Flaherty on Sunday. Mrs. Flaherty went to Mansfield with Mrs. Hawkins Wednesday for a short visit.

### STAFFORDVILLE

Fourth Quarterly Conference—Birth-day Party for Herbert R. Bosworth.

The fourth quarterly conference was held at the Methodist parsonage last week Thursday evening. District Superintendent Rev. G. C. Scrivener presiding. The usual business was transacted. The pastor, Rev. E. H. Tunncliffe, was returned for another year.

Celebrated Birthday. A few little friends of Master Herbert R. Bosworth met at his home on Tuesday afternoon after school to celebrate his eighth birthday. Refreshments were served and many gifts were left for the young host.

Mrs. B. G. Phelps who has been taking care of her mother, Mrs. J. Fagan, of Haverhill, who has been ill with pneumonia for a number of weeks, returned last Saturday.

Miss Ariene Hanner is ill at her home.

### STAFFORD

Mrs. Asa Harris has returned from a visit with friends in Springfield. Miss Abbie E. Miner spent last Friday with her parents in East Haddam, Mr. and Mrs. William Hasset, of Worcester, were guests last week of Mrs. Nella Weston.

H. F. Reed is reported as more comfortable, but neither he nor Mr. Jerome is yet able to sit up.

The funeral of Mrs. Minnie Fauman, who died Feb. 17th, was held at her residence, Saturday, the 20th, at 2 p. m. and the burial was in the family lot at Hillside cemetery. The service was conducted by Rev. C. H. Puffer. Miss Eunice Park sang Home Land, and Miss Lulu Ide, Face to Face. The bearers were Percy C. Pinner, Austin Witt, James Lewis, M. H. Soule, E. L. Squier and H. R. Howard.

The ministerial association will meet Monday afternoon with Rev. and Mrs. Reed.

The cottage prayer meeting was held at the parsonage Wednesday evening. Subject, The Heavenly Vision.

The bi-monthly covenant meeting is to be held at the vestry today (Saturday) at 2:30 p. m.

### SOUTH WILLINGTON

Supper in Memorial Church Well Attended—Frank T. Maples of Norwich the Entertainer.

The supper to the ladies in Memorial church last week Thursday evening was well attended. About 30 ladies accepted the invitation to be present and enjoyed the supper, the music and the entertainment furnished by the excellent impersonator, Frank T. Maples, of Norwich.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Malo and daughter Beatrice have returned from a visit with her parents in East Haddam. Poles are being set for the continuation of the electric light line to West Willington.

Anton Radia, who has been ill for several weeks, is in New York for hospital treatment.

Mrs. Cynthia Latham is ill. Her sister, Mrs. Henry T. Hutchinson of East Hampton, is caring for her.

### EAST WILLINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith were in Stafford Springs Sunday. Mrs. Ernest Wilson was given a surprise party last Saturday evening on her birthday. The evening was pleasantly spent in playing games and with friends.

### TOLLAND

Entertainment and Supper—Meeting of the Library Association.

The ladies of the Congregational church gave an entertainment and supper in the town hall Feb. 26, the entertainment consisting of vocal and instrumental music, dialogues by the children, also a farce, Gertrude Mason, M. D. The cast follows: Gertrude Mason, Miss Ada Suhren; Bertha Lawrence, and Ella, her friend, Miss Edith Baker and Miss Edith West; Jane Simpkins, Miss Lilla Newcomb; Mrs. Van Styke, Miss Helen Suhren; Norah, Miss Ethel Sullivan; and Marie, Miss Priscilla Billings.

Study Class Meets. The Union Congregational Study class met Wednesday with Mrs. Myron Searow.

The library association met Monday in the library.

The Ladies' Aid society held a meeting at the town hall Wednesday.

Dr. H. W. Price, of Madison, Mass., has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Price.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ludlow and family, of Highland Park, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Crandall.

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Mrs. Henry Crandall and John Wigold furnished piano and violin music for the dance at Coventry grange.

Mr. and Mrs. Marlon F. Hynnis is visiting her father, Wm. Agard.

Henry Crandall is moving from the Sparrow house.

### HEBRON

Sudden Death of Mrs. Rufus Rathbun—L. A. S. Makes Generous Gift to Pastor.

Mrs. Rufus Rathbun died very suddenly while on a visit to her mother's, Emily Cobb's, in Columbia last Monday night. She had been in poor health for more than a year.

Miss Ellen Buell, who has been ill, is improving.

Mrs. L. N. Lord was the guest of her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Lord in South Coventry last Sunday.

Roger Porter was one of the appraisers on the T. R. Prentice estate.

Mrs. Edith Horton of Hartford was at her son's, Edmund Horton's, over Sunday.

Caecilia Porter of Hartford was a caller in town recently.

Mrs. E. J. Lord and her daughter were in Hartford one day this week.

Miss Susan Pendleton was in Hartford Wednesday.

The L. A. S. made the pastor, Rev. J. G. W. Herold, a present of \$25. He is a patient in the Willimantic hospital with Bright's disease and heart trouble.

The suffragettes met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Edmund Horton.

The L. A. S. met Thursday afternoon at Mrs. Susan Rottman's.

The young ladies gave a dance Friday evening of this week.

### BOLTON

Paul Clement Stricken with a Shock—James P. Fanning Hartford Telegraph Operator.

Miss Estelle Pierson has returned to her school in the south district.

Mon., Tues., Wed. **DAVIS THEATRE** Matinee, 2.15, 10c  
THREE SHOWS DAILY CHILDREN, 5c  
NIGHT, 7 and 8.30—10c, 15c, 20c

THE GREATEST PARAMOUNT FEATURE WITH THE GREATEST STAR IN AMERICA  
**Mary Pickford** In the Noted Theatrical Play, "BEHIND THE SCENES"  
A 5-REEL PRODUCTION IN WHICH "LITTLE MARY" EXCELS ALL HER PREVIOUS TRIUMPHS

3 Big Time Acts | Joe Moore and Co., In the Comedy Musical Sketch "ALL WRONG" | Great Victor, America's Premier Ventriloquist | Johnson and Wells, Singing and Dancing Novelty "WATCH THE QUADRILLE"

MUTUAL WAR WEEKLY | MUTUAL MOVIES | YE OLDEN GRAFTER—KEYSTONE COMEDY

**DAVIS THEATRE** BROADWAY  
Presenting the Best Plays Ever Seen in Norwich  
Matinee—STOP THIEF! The Laughing Cuck Play  
Tonight—UNDER SOUTHERN SKIES  
Lottie Blair Parker's Beautiful Romance of the South

Today **AUDITORIUM** Shows 7 and 9  
THE HINKY-DEALS  
Present PETE IN THE...  
A SCREAMINGLY FUNNY MUSICAL COMEDY FARCE  
A RIOT OF FUN AND MUSIC  
EXCELLENT PHOTO-PLAYS

**Colonial Theatre**  
Alice Joyce in Wonderful Two-reel Sensation  
Big Cast—"THE LEECH"—Thrilling Tale  
Modern Society Drama of Extraordinary Merit  
"MAN, MISSION AND MAID" Vita-graph. "WAY OF A WOMAN," Edison  
Excellent Comedy to Complete the Bill  
Coming Monday—"A Fool There Was" Mammoth Multiple Reel Feature

### WILLINGTON

Old Folks' Concert—Roy Wilbur Sends Curious Home.

Sunday morning there were 75 at Sunday school, a full in the school and at the church service enjoyed the talk of Mr. Borah party in Slawson and party in E. G. Clark. His field work extends from New England to work in different places in New Hampshire.

The last Sunday in March, the 28th, when he will be accompanied by a missionary from New Jersey. At a meeting of the joint board it was voted to receive two converts and candidates into the membership of the church after baptism. These two and probably others will be baptized at Memorial church the 28th.

An Old Folks' concert was given at Memorial church Friday evening. The proceeds are to help out the missionary appointments of the church.

Adolph Parasek has a new automobile.

Rev. George W. Shepherd a former pastor of the Baptist church in Stafford, who commenced his Connecticut service by a summer vacation passed in the Baptist parsonage Willington Hill acting as pulpit supply, the church being without a pastor, is in a serious condition at his home in Salem, N. Y., with locomotor ataxia.

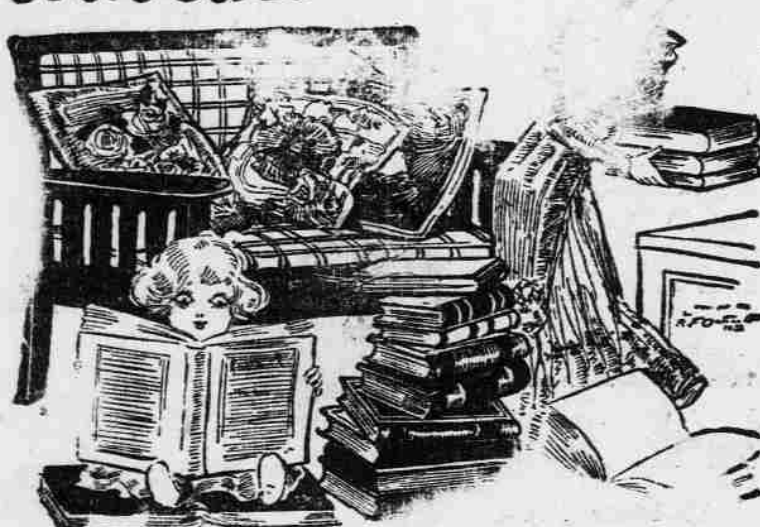
He was obliged to give up his pastorate in Willimantic, N. Y., some time since on account of his failing health.

At the Grange meeting Wednesday evening, plans were made for installation, and for a supper to be arranged for by the A. B. C.

Mrs. Robbins has received from her son Roy Wilbur, by express from San Francisco, a box of beautiful specimens of coral, shells, baskets, necklaces and many fine views from the Samoan Islands the law of a shark with teeth like needles, which Mr. Wilbur caught on a line from his Imgard, in the Pacific ocean.

He enjoyed the opening of the exposition and sent a beautiful book of views of the grounds and buildings. He is now on his way east via Galveston, Texas, there being so many unemployed sea-men from San Francisco on account of the European war, that it seemed useless to try to ship again from there.

You ought to have a new book case



Dear Amy:-

Don't you hate books lying about all over the house? Well, it was getting to be that way in our house, so I made John give me the money to go down to the furniture store and I bought me a pretty Golden Oak Book-case.

You need a new book-case, too. Make Bob give you the money to buy it. Set a good one while you are at it. It does not pay to buy poor furniture at any price.

Always your friend.

Low,

P. S.—You can get good furniture that will last at a low price from

**SHEA & BURKE,**  
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The Famous **Narragansett** Lager Beer  
"BEST BY FAR"

Good beer is the purest, cleanest beverage you can drink.  
No deleterious substances are used.  
No objectionable processes are employed in brewing.  
Barley malt is the body of all good beer.  
Hops are added to give pungency and aroma—Pure water provides the bulk.  
Careful brewing and long ageing develops the flavor and clarity.  
Narragansett is the perfect brew—perfectly brewed.

REAPING BARLEY